



You may be eligible for a credit of at least \$13.50 toward payment of your monthly Vermont basic telephone charge. To apply, return this form by June 15, 2007. **You must reapply for the credit each year.**

If you will be 65 or OLDER by June 15, 2007.
Complete this checklist to see if you are eligible:

Are you a Vermont resident? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Will you be at least 65 by June 15, 2007? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Was your 2006 household income for you and your spouse less than \$23,100 (from Income section below, Line p.)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you answer "Yes" to all questions, you are eligible.

OR

If you will be UNDER 65 on June 15, 2007.
Complete this checklist to see if you are eligible:

Are you a Vermont resident? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Will you be younger than 65 on June 15, 2007? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Was your 2006 household income for you and your spouse less than \$19,800 (from Income section below, Line p.)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you answer "Yes" to all questions, you are eligible.

The following section must be filled out completely or your application will be returned and benefits will be delayed.

Your Name _____

Spouse or CU Partner Name _____

Name on phone bill _____

Street, P.O. Box or RD _____

Telephone Number

-

Customer Code *
(Verizon Customers)

Name of your telephone company _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Social Security Number

Yours - -

Spouse or
CU Partner - -

Birthdate

Month

Day

Year

Yours

Sex
F/M

Spouse or
CU Partner

INCOME (Total, You and Spouse or CU Partner combined)

- a. Cash public assistance/welfare a. _____
- b. Social Security/railroad retirement/veteran's benefits, **taxable and nontaxable** b. _____
- c. Unemployment compensation/worker's compensation c. _____
- d. Wages, salaries, tips, etc. d. _____
- e. Interest and dividends e. _____
- f. Interest on U.S., state and municipal obligations, **taxable and nontaxable** f. _____
- g. Alimony, support money/child support g. _____
- h. Business income: **If you have a loss, enter -0-** h. _____
- i. Capital gains, taxable and nontaxable. **If you have a loss, enter -0-** i. _____
- j. Pensions and annuities, **taxable and nontaxable** j. _____
- k. Rental income: **If you have a loss, enter -0-** k. _____
- l. Farm/partnership/Subchapter S income: **If you have a loss, enter -0-** l. _____
- m. Other income. Please specify m. _____
- n. SUBTOTAL: Add lines a through m n. _____
- o. LESS adjustments to income from Federal Form 1040, Line 36 or 1040A, Line 20. o. _____
- p. **TOTAL INCOME:** Subtract Line o from Line n and enter the result here. p. _____

☐ NR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

I declare under penalties of perjury this application is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge. If prepared by a person other than the applicant, this declaration further provides that under 32 V.S.A. §5901 this information has not been and will not be used for any other purpose, or made available to any other person other than for the preparation of this application unless a separate valid consent form is signed by the applicant and retained by the preparer. I authorize the Vermont Department of Taxes to disclose this information and other information necessary to process the Lifeline Credit to the Secretary of Human Services.

Subscriber's signature

Date

Signature of preparer if other than taxpayer

Date

Spouse or Civil Union Partner signature (if filing jointly)

Date

Address of preparer

Instructions for Lifeline Telephone Service Credit

What is the Lifeline Telephone Credit?

The Lifeline program provides a credit of at least \$13.50 on the monthly telephone bills of income-eligible Vermont residents.

Who is eligible for the Lifeline Telephone Credit?

Two groups of Vermont residents with telephone service are eligible for the credit. You are eligible if you reside in Vermont, have phone service, and

- you will be 65 or older by June 15, 2007 and your household income is less than \$23,100;

OR

- you are under 65 and your household income is less than \$19,800

You need to submit an application for Lifeline credit each year.

What income must be included?

You must include your Adjusted Gross Income (Federal Form 1040, Line 37; or 1040A, Line 21; or 1040EZ, Line 4). This is before deduction of any loss from a trade or business, partnership, small business corporation, rental property or capital loss. This is added to all other taxable and non-taxable income such as alimony, support money, cash public assistance and relief, cost of living allowance, serviceman's dependent allowances, gross amount of pensions and annuities, railroad retirement benefits, Social Security payment, veteran's benefit act payments, nontaxable interest received from Federal or state instrumentality, unemployment and worker's compensation, gross amount of "lost time" insurance and total capital gains. It does not include gifts from nongovernmental sources, food stamps, relief in kind supplied by a government agency, or payments made by the State for foster care or care of a developmentally disabled person.

When and how do you apply?

All eligible telephone subscribers should mail the completed application on or before June 15, 2007 to:

**Vermont Department of Taxes
133 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05633-1401**

Applications submitted after June 15, 2007 will not be considered for the credit this year. However, this deadline may be waived by the Agency of Human Services if the application was delayed for good cause, such as sickness or disability.

The application may be submitted with your Vermont tax forms. If you are not required to file, you may send just this application to the Vermont Department of Taxes.

The Vermont Agency of Human Services processes your application. Your telephone company will receive notice of your eligibility and apply the credit to the telephone account of the name, telephone number and customer code you write on this application. It is very important the information on the application matches the information with your telephone company. **Before mailing your application, check your telephone bill for the spelling of your name, your telephone number, and the customer code that follows your telephone number.** If it is convenient, attach a copy of your telephone bill to this application.

Where do I find my Verizon Customer Code?

If you are a Verizon customer, your Customer Code is the three digits after your telephone number on your bill. Your phone number, plus these three digits, is your Verizon account number.

When will the Lifeline Credit begin?

If this is the first time you applied for the Lifeline credit, it may take up to three (3) months for the credit to appear on your telephone bill.

Do all telephone companies participate in Lifeline?

No. Only the following companies must offer Lifeline: Franklin Telephone; Fairpoint/Northland Telephone; Shoreham Telephone; TDS (Ludlow, Northfield, and Perkinsville); Topsham Telephone; Unicel; Verizon; Vermont Telephone; and Waitsfield/Champlain Valley Telecom. Other companies may offer a Lifeline discount but are not required to do so and do not get reimbursed for their Lifeline costs.

How can I get answers to my questions about Lifeline?

For more information about the application or the credit

- Seniors call the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-642-5119 to reach your local area agency on aging;
- Under 65 call the AHS Economic Services Division (formerly PATH) at 1-800-287-0589.

Persons who receive Reach Up, Food Stamps, Medicaid, or Fuel Assistance benefits may be eligible to apply year-round for Lifeline through the AHS Economic Services Division. To apply, contact your Economic Services Division district office.

A Change for Some Verizon Customers

Verizon now offers a Lifeline discount on its service packages in addition to its low use and standard measured service. If you were previously denied the Lifeline discount in connection with a Verizon package, you should reapply for Lifeline in 2007.

YOU MUST REAPPLY FOR LIFELINE EACH YEAR.